



	Suburban Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting Minutes September 22, 2009, 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Montgomery County Health Department
Agenda Item	Discussion
Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of IDEHA Staff and Participants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Henry Bishop welcomed everyone to the meeting. • Introductions occurred.
Meeting Framework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of RAC • Meeting Purpose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Henry Bishop reviewed the purpose of the RAC and the last meeting's minutes. Henry also reviewed the last meeting's evaluation results, emphasized the importance of completing the evaluation, and noted that consumer input is really critical in order to judge the effectiveness of the meetings.
IDEHA Overview (Infectious Disease and Environmental Health Administration)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heather Hauck, Director of IDEHA, introduced the new integration between the Maryland AIDS Administration and the Community Health Administration. IDEHA, Infectious Disease and Environmental Health Administration maintains the same services and program areas of the AIDS Administration, in addition to other diseases and environmental health issues. • IDEHA is meant to strengthen the programs by offering a more coordinated approach, introducing an overall common health protection message, provide greater collaboration within departments, as well as increase the DHMH ability to monitor the quality of health care provided to affected individuals and communities. (Handouts provided)
Legislative & Policy Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • William Honablew 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • William Honablew gave the group an overview of the new proposed renewal of the Ryan White Treatment Modernization Act. (Handouts provided)
The Role of the RAC Co-Chairs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kip Castner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kip Castner gave an overview of the purpose and role of the RAC Co-Chairs. Major duties of the Co-Chairs are to provide leadership on recruitment of HIV infected and affected members, and lead RAC meetings. RAC Co-Chairs serve two year terms and may serve for two consecutive terms.
Community Dialogue <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting goes broke off into three groups to discuss specific issues relating to IDEHA, HIV Care Services, and the tools for advancing community change. See notes.



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small Group Discussion • Report Back/Large Group Discussion 	
Wrap-Up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announcements • Meeting Schedule (dates and sites) • Questions/Community Input 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Henry Bishop closed the meeting with a reminder to complete the evaluation form. • The next meeting will be held on October 20, 2009 at the Montgomery County Health Department from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Suburban RAC Community Dialogue

Group 1:	Group 2:	Group 3:
<p>Question 1: "Tools for Advancing Community Change"</p> <p>a. If you attended the training on "Tools for Advancing Community Change," what specific actions have you taken toward influencing decision-makers to change specific policies or programs?</p> <p>b. What specific follow up actions are you planning to take over the next few months related to advancing community change? Or if you had not initiated any, what specific actions are you planning to take to advance community change over the next few months?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important for lawmakers to have open communication with county level 	<p>Question 1: "Tools for Advancing Community Change"</p> <p>a. If you attended the training on "Tools for Advancing Community Change," what specific actions have you taken toward influencing decision-makers to change specific policies or programs?</p> <p>b. What specific follow up actions are you planning to take over the next few months related to advancing community change? Or if you had not initiated any, what specific actions are you planning to take to advance community change over the next few months?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actions to influence decision makers: writing letters to county council staff • Need for STI clinic, surge capacity, commission of health • Working through public health 	<p>Question 1: "Tools for Advancing Community Change"</p> <p>a. If you attended the training on "Tools for Advancing Community Change," what specific actions have you taken toward influencing decision-makers to change specific policies or programs?</p> <p>b. What specific follow up actions are you planning to take over the next few months related to advancing community change? Or if you had not initiated any, what specific actions are you planning to take to advance community change over the next few months?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign Petition for reauthorization of RWCA • Transportation issues-- metro



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops should occur in Suburban region • Develop action items from the workshops • TA from experts post-workshop • Identify partnerships within workshops • Increase in HIV Education in middle and high schools • Increase in education intervention <p>Question 2: HIV Care Services. a. How has the economy had any impact on your ability to get HIV care (or provide care)?</p> <p>b. What recommendations do you have to improve health services?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase co pays for clients • Limited insurance coverage • Providers feeling the "Pinch" and passing it to clients • Decrease in service quality • Economic difference between counties in same region • Increase in turnover of patients in hospitals: lends to decrease in quality • Lack of Bi-lingual con consensus • Increase in language barrier. • Increase in services for deaf, blind. 	<p>association to make sure public health issues are kept in front of the public eye</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P.G. county held public mtgs re: impact of HIV/AIDS state senators, delegates, mayors • Health officer of P.G. county held 8 meetings for all health disparities within the D.C. beltway: HIV/AIDS, obesity, infant mortality, rand summary report • Presentations at churches • Adhoc P.G. county stakeholders group (predominant contacts via list serv.) working with youth and the elderly to build capacity to assist the LHD to reach the community • Direct conversations with elected officials • Governor, Donna Edwards (congress) <p>Question 2: HIV Care Services.</p> <p>a. How has the economy had any impact on your ability to get HIV care (or provide care)?</p> <p>b. What recommendations do you have to improve health services?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economy impact on ability to get/provide care • Gaps in Physicians (loss) • for labs and tests • Can't spend funds: personnel (freeze) • Not enough for specialty care: 	<p>access, cab vouchers, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of resources among case managers • Consumer advocacy board • Training issues • How to encourage people living with HIV/AIDS to attend RAC meetings-- address transportation issues--D.C. planning council, D.C. AIDS administration • Dissemination of information to clients <p>Question 2: HIV Care Services. a. How has the economy had any impact on your ability to get HIV care (or provide care)?</p> <p>b. What recommendations do you have to improve health services?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More demand on financial resources by clients • Process takes longer--longer time to access services (medical asst. etc) • Includes all income eligible services • Catch 22 where people are unable to work because they would be ineligible for drug assistance for example • "Pricing out" of services • Housing for clients HOPWA
--	--	---



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural Competence!!! <p>Question 3: The Infectious Disease and Environmental Health Administration.</p> <p>a. How can the IDEHA provide better care to the community?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase community involvement (Surveys) gender based, culture based, language based • Continue satisfactions surveys possible phone feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cardiologists, dermatologists • Emergency finance services almost depleted for the annual budget (80% gone) (Housing, utilities) • Healthcare reform • Public option/Healthcare Universal • Regional Services; sharing of sub-specialty services and resources; less rigidity with geographic access to services; increase community capacity re: information and service locations • Additional funding for: standard of care (labs) • emergency financial assistance <p>Question 3: The Infectious Disease and Environmental Health Administration.</p> <p>a. How can the IDEHA provide better care to the community?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These forums (RAC) • Single entry pos for service • Referral Integration (case managers with primary care physician) • Electronic Health Records 	<p>underfunded: lots of advocacy needed.</p> <p>Question 3: The Infectious Disease and Environmental Health Administration.</p> <p>a. How can the IDEHA provide better care to the community?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rates of HIV infection among men of color and for MSM • More HIV prevention Education • Closing thoughts: better dissemination of information to clients e.g. know about RAC
--	---	--

Respectfully Submitted,
Chelsea Strength